

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0920
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CZ, GW, UK

SUBJECT: DEFECTION TO UK OF CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLIGENCE
OFFICER

1. HOME OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT SVETOZAR SIMKO,
A CZECHOSLOVAK INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ASSIGNED TO BONN
UNDER COVER AS CTK CORRESPONDENT, HAS DEFECTED TO BRITAIN
AND HAS BEEN GRANTED REFUGEE STATUS IN THE UK. WHILE
ALL DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF FEBRUARY 24TH CARRY STORIES OF
SIMKO'S DEFECTION, MOST DETAILED ACCOUNT APPEARS UNDER
BYLINE OF DAVID SHEARS IN "DAILY TELEGRAPH."

2. ACCORDING TO SHEARS, THE 36-YEAR-OLD SIMKO, WHO
DEFECTED WITH HIS WIFE AND YOUNG SON, HAD BEEN WORKING
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FOR CZECHOSLOVAK MILITARY INTELLIGENCE IN BONN FOR SIX
YEARS. SIMKO IDENTIFIED CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY FIRST
SECRETARIES RUDOLF KOVAL AND VLADIMIR KRULICH, RESPEC-
TIVELY, AS MV AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE RESIDENTS IN
BONN. ADDITIONALLY, SIMKO SAID THAT THIRD SECRETARY
ARNOLD BUK WAS HIS OWN CASE OFFICER AND INSIDE CONTACT,
AND HE CLAIMED THAT THE FOLLOWING FOURTEEN CZECHOSLOVAK

EMBASSY OFFICERS ARE ACTUALLY INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS:

- A. COMMERCIAL COUNSELLOR JOSEF DRISKA
 - B. ECONOMIC COUNSELLOR VEROSLAV SOBEK
 - C. FIRST SECRETARY JAROSLAV BULIR
 - D. SECOND SECRETARY (PRESS ATTACHE) VILEM VACLAVEK
 - E. SECOND SECRETARY KAREL VODRAZKA
 - F. SECOND SECRETARY JOSEF DRAHOKOUPIL
 - G. THIRD SECRETARY JOSEF KAVIN
 - H. THIRD SECRETARY JAN VETVICKA
 - I. THIRD SECRETARY IVAN MOROZ
 - J. THIRD SECRETARY IVAN BACINA
 - K. THIRD SECRETARY MAREK VENUTA
 - L. TRADE ATTACHE JOSEF STEPANEK
 - M. TRADE ATTACHE MILAN VOJTA
 - N. ATTACHE IVAN JANICEK
- SIMKO ALSO CLAIMED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR JIRI GOTZ WAS A FORMER INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, BUT WAS NO LONGER ACTIVE IN THIS SPHERE.

3. COMMENT: FROM A PROPAGANDA POINT OF VIEW, SIMKO'S DEFECTION COMES AT A VERY OPPORTUNE MOMENT, SINCE IT PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT COUNTERFOIL TO BOTH THE CZECHOSLOVAK TELEVISION PROGRAM ON BRITISH INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN THE CSSR AND CZECHOSLOVAK ALLEGATIONS OF "IMPROPER" ACTIVITIES BY WESTERN JOURNALISTS IN THE CSSR. WE ARE PROBABLY IN FOR SEVERAL SALVOS OF CHARGES AND COUNTER-CHARGES BETWEEN WHITEHALL AND HRADCANY.

ARMSTRONG
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Message Attributes

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